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Remarks

Reconsideration of this application is requested. By this response to the Office Action dated March 9, 2005, claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 10 and 15 have been amended and claims 7 and 11-14 have been cancelled. A listing of these claims and the actions taken is included in this amendment. Claims 1-6, 8-10 and 15-18 remain in the application.

Response to the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

The Office Action rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lindsay et al. (U.S. patent 6,085,076).

Claims 1-7

Applicants' amended claim 1 recites, among other things, receiving a framed digital signal having preamble symbols by multiple antennas in a mobile device and sequentially switching each antenna from the multiple antennas to an input of a receiver in the mobile device to ascertain a signal quality based on preamble symbols processed by the receiver.

Lindsay et al. teach in FIG. 4 a communication base station having a plurality of antennas connected to a plurality of radios. Note that Lindsay et al. teach a communication base station, whereas, Applicants' claim 1 recites a mobile device. This teaching for the base station is also found in the patent in column 8, lines 51-62, that describes the preferred embodiment of a base station 801 with the four radio units 802a-802d that are associated with the corresponding four antennas.

As already mentioned, Lindsay et al. also teach four radio units 802a-802d, whereas, Applicants' claim 1 recites one radio (e.g. receiver) having an input to receive the preamble symbols from the multiple antennas. This feature of multiple antennas 403 connected to a plurality of radios 405a, 405b, 405c and 405d is clearly taught by Lindsay et al. in column 7, lines 38-40. These four radios operate independently, but in parallel to derive the quality metrics based on the reception quality of the radio message.

Further, nowhere do Lindsay et al. teach switching each antenna from the multiple antennas to an input of a receiver in the mobile device, as claimed in

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Applicants' claim 1. Again, Lindsay clearly illustrates four antennas connected to four radios, with a selector after the radio devices. This connection of the antennas 403, radios 405 and antenna selector 420 illustrated in FIG. 4 is in contrast to Applicants' recited feature of switching each antenna from the multiple antennas to an input of a receiver.

Accordingly, the prior art reference of Lindsay is deficient in teaching Applicants' claimed invention as recited in claim 1. Lindsay cannot anticipate Applicants' claim 1 and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lindsay et al. (U.S. patent 6,085,076) should be removed.

Claims 1-6 directly depend from base claim 1 and are believed allowable over the art of record for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Claim 7 has been canceled and the rejection of this claim is now moot.

Claims 8-14

Applicants' amended claim 8 recites, among other things, controlling a switch in a transceiver of a mobile device to sequentially provide signals received by at least three antennas to an input of a single receiver where the signals are symbols in a preamble used to evaluate signal quality.

As already highlighted with regards to claim 1, Applicants' claim 8 recites a mobile device and a switch to provide signals from antenna to an input of a single receiver. These features are not taught or suggested by Lindsay et al., and therefore, that prior art reference cannot anticipate Applicants' claim 8. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lindsay et al. should be withdrawn.

Claims 9-10 depend directly from base claim 8 and are believed allowable based on claim 8 being allowable. Claims 11-14 have been canceled by this amendment and the rejection of these claims is now moot.

Claims 15-18

Applicants' amended claim 15 recites, among other things, a Network Interface Card (NIC) having at least three antennas coupled through a switch to an input of a single receiver in a mobile device.

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Again, Lindsay et al. do not teach a single receiver, but rather multiple receiver chains. Lindsay et al. do not teach antennas coupled through a switch to an input of a single receiver in a mobile device. The claimed features of Applicants' claim 15 are not found in the prior art reference of Lindsay et al. Therefore, that reference does not make Applicants' claim 15 unpatentable.

Claims 16-18 depend directly from base claim 15 and are believed allowable based on claim 15 being allowable.

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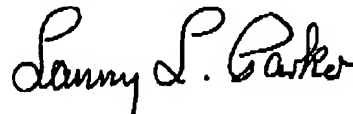
Conclusion

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action mailed March 9, 2005, and reconsideration of the rejections is requested. It is submitted that claims 1-6, 8-10 and 15-18 are in condition for allowance. Allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited.

Applicants herewith petition the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated March 9, 2005, for 3 months. Please charge Deposit Account #50-0221 in the amount of \$1020.00 for a three month extension. Should it be determined that an additional fee is due under 37 CFR §1.16 or 1.17, or any excess fee has been received, please charge that fee or credit the amount of overcharge to deposit account #50-0221.

If the Examiner believes that there are any informalities that can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned at (480) 715-5388 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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